

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



Cash is a good buy word.

New wrinkles in farming show new life.

Work done on the highway proves good by-pay.

Cabbages should be pulled and hung up by the roots.

Be sure the whole bodies of diseased fowls are burned.

It is imperative that sheep quarters be dry at all seasons of the year.

The guinea hen is much relished on account of the gamey flavor of the flesh.

The ram intended for use this fall should be pushed along as fast as he will stand it.

A regularity of good feed and kind treatment will make it unnecessary to drive the cows in at night.

The gasoline engine is doing more to keep the boy on the farm than a course of lectures, oral or printed.

Spasmodic salting is injurious to any animal. Keep plenty of salt where they can get it when they want it.

Apple pickers should remember that the least puncture in the skin of an apple results sooner or later in a rotten spot.

Keep the water in the troughs pure and fresh and see that the loft is well ventilated and your pigeons will not be troubled by canker.

Ducks and geese may be raised just as easily away from a pond or running water as with it. Plenty of drinking water is sufficient for their needs.

When a team of horses stand up to the bit in the same way it will be found they do more work with less friction than horses that do not work in harmony.

With milk above three cents per quart to the producer in most of the larger cities, and good fall pastures, it would seem that the dairyman's lot is not so hard after all, especially at this time.

Give the chickens plenty of range, plenty of water, and plenty of nitrogenous feeds during the moulting season and get them into the laying habit before cold weather. Starving them will not promote growth of feathers.

Labor-saving devices are appreciated more on the farm than ever before. It seems almost impossible to get help to do the necessary work, and we are obliged to farm differently and to use mechanical means instead of hand labor.

As pasture grass becomes short and killed by frosts, begin to give the cows extra feed, so they will hold up in milk. Taking the cows into winter in good condition, other things being equal, will mean a steady, high milk flow all through the winter.

When scraping out the decayed cavity of a large tree to be afterward filled with cement, as much care should be taken to remove every particle of decayed matter as a good dentist does to remove the decayed matter in a tooth before filling. Otherwise your labor is lost.

Nothing is better for poultry buildings from a sanitary point of view than a good coat of whitewash. Especially is this true when getting the poultry houses ready for winter. All may not be aware there is quite a science in whitewashing. There are different kinds, and each is adapted for a different use.

The lack of high-class dairy cows, the high price of grain and mill products and the difficulty of securing competent farm labor have brought great hardship on the New England dairyman who have been neglecting the production of gardens, fruits, poultry, etc., which should find a place on every well-organized farm.

Your cows will not get enough salt by simply putting a lump of rock salt in the manger. A cow giving a good flow of milk, well fed, ought to have two ounces of salt a day, an ounce in the morning and an ounce at night. We would advise you to give this to them on their ensilage when you feed ensilage and grain. You can take a small piece of salt in your fingers and weigh it and will soon be able to judge the amount in an ounce.

Work is the farmer's capital.

Potato tops are good for potato bugs.

Animal food is essential for geese and ducks.

Put the piggery in good condition; winter is coming on.

A horse of quality will outsell a coarse grained one any time.

When the hen no longer lays in her nest, the wood block comes next.

Keep milk away from all other foods as it is a great absorber of odors.

It is poor policy to feed inferior grain to the horse—especially to the work team.

To produce their full milk-giving capacity, cows should be kept as free from disturbance as possible.

Hornless cattle are preferred by feeders and shippers, and they will usually pay a premium for them.

A horse which rears backward is never safe for riding. One can never tell when he will fall over backward.

Though exercise is good for the laying hens, we wouldn't advise having the dogs chase them for that purpose.

A cow that is a hard milker, due to constriction of the muscles at the end of the teat, may be cured, if properly treated.

Remember yourself when building poultry houses and plan them so that you may take care of them with the least amount of trouble.

The bruise on an apple may not at once develop into rot but it will make a brown spot which disfigures and lessens the value of the fruit.

Dairymen generally like cows with out horns. They are much easier to handle, there is less risk of their being injured and they take up less room.

During the busy fall days, don't forget to provide for the hen's diet as well as for other stock; while preparing dainties for the table, hoard up some for the hens.

Prepare the nests and place nest eggs in them, so the pullets will learn to occupy them. It is important that the pullets be early taught to lay in the nests provided for them.

Farmers with silos are inclined to feel and show greater independence than their neighbors without them. They say they don't care so much what the season is, they are sure of lots of good feed.

A new sheep disease has been found among flocks in central New York state, known as "gid," and is said to be the first case in this country. Gid is a brain disease, being a form of staggers and is often fatal.

The family cat needs watching. Cats prefer young chickens to mice or rats. Many valuable chicks have disappeared in this way and the cat looks innocent. After you have muzzled your own cat, then look out for the neighbor's cat.

After the wheat field has been planted open up drains with the plow for leading off surface water. A few hours' work spent at this will mean the saving of much wheat from drowning out. There will be much rain between seeding time and harvest.

Nitrogen is contained in great quantities in the air above us, but it cannot be purchased and used with profit in farming, except under special conditions. Clover and other leguminous plants can draw all they require from the atmosphere by means of bacteria that live on their roots.

It is not possible to maintain our lands without clover and it is best to sow clover and plow it under. It is desirable to clip the clover two or three weeks earlier than it would be cut for hay and let it lie upon the ground, and this helps the second crop, which may be cut for seed; then the straw should be put back on the land.

It is interesting to note just how the cowpea crop benefits the soil upon which it grows and increases its productive capacity. In the first place it does so by increasing the supply of nitrogen, which it transfers from the air to the soil by means of the bacteria which live on the roots of the plant. This added supply of nitrogen serves also to increase the growth of the plant as well as enriching the soil during its growth.

The fight against insect, scale and fungus diseases in our orchards must not be dropped with the harvesting of the fruit crops. It cannot be hoped that you have, by your spraying operations during the summer season, killed all the scale insects and fungi, and doubtless during the press of work on the farm during the midsummer season the matter will have been neglected, or very little done, since the fruit was formed, and it can be depended on that there will now be on your orchard trees a fine collection of all sorts ready to hibernate and come forth in the spring stronger than last year.

THE ONLOOKER

WILBUR D. NESSBIT.

When I Met Jim



Well, sir, I met Jim Breen to-day—His hair is getting thin and gray, His eyelids have begun to droop, His shoulders have a little stoop; I hardly would have known him. No, But we were boys this long ago.

Let's see. It's twenty years and more Since we romped at the schoolhouse door. Why, then, Jim Breen was young and plump, And he could run and fight and jump And stand all kinds of heat or cold— But, say, Jim Breen is getting old!

Why, look! When I walked up to him And grabbed his hand with: "Hello, Jim!"

He looked at me a long, long while And smiled a half-amused smile And said, as puzzled as could be: "Well, you have got the best of me."

Now, who'd have thought the years since Then— Since long before we grew to men— Would have made such a striking change! Now, honestly, Jim Breen looked strange. He has deep wrinkles in his cheeks And his voice shakes like when he speaks!

His memory is bad, I know. I had to talk an hour or so Reminding him of what a noise We'd make at school when we were boys, And where I lived, and folks we knew— And still he said: "I don't place you."

Poor Jim! He's getting old, that's all. He used to be so strong and tall. Without a crowfoot 'round his eyes Or gray hairs to give him disguise. It almost moves a man to tears To see how friends change with the years And queerest of it all is, Jim Said I looked just as strange to him, Said I was getting rather gray And walked in a stoop-shouldered way. It's odd how age makes Jim Breen see All other folks the same as he!



He Will Not Down. The man with the iridescent whiskers boldly enters and approaches the desk of the fretful hiring with the haggard eyes and the laggard fountain pen, and remarks in a low tone of voice:

"I didn't expect to drop in to-day, but a little idea just occurred to me that you may find worth using. It's this: What is the difference between a young lady of great beauty and considerable haughtiness who has been keeping company with a young man, and who has had an engagement with the young man which he failed to keep, and who meets the young man on the street and cuts him cold, what is the difference between her and the young man who afterward wins her heart and hand and ratifies their engagement with a four-karat solitaire?"

"There's no difference, is there?" The difference was between her and the first beau."

"It's a different difference. The question is: What is the—"

"Never mind all that again. Go and give your problem to the heart-throb editor."

"All right, sir. If that is the way you receive a friendly suggestion, all well and good. She gives him a stony glare and he gives her a glary stone, but you may consider my suggestion unmade."

And he trends on the poor little office boy's foot as he goes out.

And Still He Lives. The man with the glittering whiskers tiptoes gently across the office and looms over the desk of the pale, perspiring hiring with the discouraged mustache and the recalcitrant fountain pen.

"Say," he whispers, "here's one that just occurred to me. It's yours if you want to use it, and nobody need ever know where you got it. What is the difference between a man who loans a million dollars at usurious rates during a time of panic and instability in the business world and who subsequently collects his interest by due process of law—what is the difference between him and a monarch who discovers a plot against his throne and causes the incarceration of a nobleman whom he has reason to believe is the leader of the plot?"

"If there is any difference, what is it?"

"One gets his per cent, and the other gets his Sir pent."

And the sunset casts its ribbons of fire thwart the opaquely beautiful bosom of the dreaming lake.

Wilbur D. Nessbit.

Prescriptions Not General. Some people look on a doctor's prescription in the same light as a cookery recipe and pass it on to their friends for general use. They forget that some symptoms may come from totally different causes and that to take a medicine prescribed for a friend is a very risky thing to do and may do a great deal of harm.

Dr. S. F. Spohn, President of the Spohn Medical Co., proprietors of Spohn's Distemper Cure, was recently elected mayor of Goshen, Ind., by a good majority. Mr. Spohn was for a number of years County Supt. of Schools, making such a record that his neighbors and friends, regardless of political lines, insisted on his accepting the nomination for mayor.

In the opinion of the beauty doctor many a homely woman has a fine face for business.

The next time you have a cold on the lungs try rubbing Wizard Oil on your chest and see how quickly it will draw out the inflammation and break up the cold.

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